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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/752,876	12/28/2000	Malcolm M. Smith	062891.0423	9414
5073	7590	05/03/2006	EXAMINER	
BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.			HAN, CLEMENCE S	
2001 ROSS AVENUE			ART UNIT	
SUITE 600			PAPER NUMBER	
DALLAS, TX 75201-2980			2616	

DATE MAILED: 05/03/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/752,876

Applicant(s)

SMITH, MALCOLM M.

Examiner

Clemence Han

Art Unit

2616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on amendment received on 06/07/2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 1/13/05, 6/8/05.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
2. Claim 1-3, 5-12, 14-20, 22, 23 and 25-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Verma et al (US Patent 6,522,880) in view of Das et al. (US Pub. 2001/0036834).

Regarding to claim 1, Verma teaches a system for distributing packets for communication to a mobile unit comprising: a mobile unit 20 having a device identifier (Column 2 Line 64) and an internet protocol (IP) address comprising a first subnet identifier, the mobile unit roaming in a foreign network having a second subnet identifier (Column 2 Line 6–12). Verma, also, teaches about a mobility manager 80, a foreign agent 30 and a home agent 50. Verma, however, does not teach about multicasting. Das teaches about multicasting. Das teaches a mobility manager 130 operable to determine a multicast address for the mobile unit based on the device identifier [0023], to receive multicast address requests that include the device identifier [0023], and to communicate the multicast address responsive to the multicast address requests [0023]; a foreign agent 140 in the foreign network, the foreign agent operable to detect the mobile unit [0023], to

determine the device identifier for the mobile unit [0023], to communicate a request including the device identifier to the mobility manager [0026], to receive the multicast address from the mobility manager [0023], and to register for a multicast group identified by the multicast address [0027]; and a home agent 120 operable to receive IP packets addressed to the mobile unit, to determine the multicast address associated with the mobile unit [0027], to encapsulate the IP packets as payloads for multicast packets addressed to the multicast address 252, and to communicate the multicast packets for receipt by devices registered for the multicast group using a packet network 254. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to modify Verma to use multicasting as taught by Das in order to reduce handoff latency [0010].

Regarding to claim 2, Verma teaches the device identifier as at least one of a mobile identification number (MIN) for the mobile unit and an equipment serial number (ESN) for the mobile unit (Column 2 Line 64).

Regarding to claim 3, Das teaches the foreign agent 140 is further operable to receive the multicast packets from the packet network, to extract the IP packets from the multicast packets, and to communicate the IP packets to the mobile unit [0022].

Regarding to claim 5, Das teaches the home agent 120 determines the multicast address by communicating a request including the IP address of the mobile unit to the mobility manager and receiving the multicast address from the mobility manager responsive to the request [0022].

Regarding to claim 6, 14, 22 and 25, Verma teaches a method for registering to receive packets comprising: determining a device identifier for a mobile unit (Column 2 Line 64), the mobile unit having an internet protocol (IP) address comprising a subnet identifier for a remote network (Column 2 Line 6–12). Verma, however, does not teach about multicasting. Das teaches about multicasting. Das teaches communicating a request for a multicast address associated with the mobile unit, the request including the device identifier [0026]; receiving the multicast address [0023]; and registering for a multicast group identified by the multicast address [0027]. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to modify Verma to use multicasting as taught by Das in order to reduce handoff latency [0010].

Regarding to claim 7, 15, 23 and 26, Das teaches receiving multicast packets addressed to the multicast address, wherein the multicast packets contain information for communication to the mobile unit [0022].

Regarding to claim 8, 16 and 27, Das teaches the information in the multicast packets comprising IP packets addressed to the IP address for the mobile unit [0028].

Regarding to claim 9, 17 and 28, Verma teaches the information in the multicast packets comprises voice information (Column 8 Line 25–39).

Regarding to claim 10, 18 and 29, Das teaches the multicast group comprises a plurality of foreign agents 140 each receiving multicast packets containing information for communication to the mobile unit [0023] (Figure 1).

Regarding to claim 11, 19 and 30, Verma teaches each of the foreign agents receiving the multicast packets communicates the information from the multicast packets to facilitate handoff of the mobile unit [0030].

Regarding to claim 12, 20 and 31, Verma teaches the device identifier as at least one of a mobile identification number (MIN) for the mobile unit and an equipment serial number (ESN) for the mobile unit (Column 2 Line 64)..

3. Claim 4, 13, 21, 24 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Verma et al (US Patent 6,522,880) in view of Das et al. (US Pub. 2001/0036834) and further in view of Kim (US Patent 6,070,075).

Regarding to claim 4, Verma teaches a system for distributing packets for communication to a mobile unit comprising: a mobile unit 20 having a device

identifier (Column 2 Line 64) and an internet protocol (IP) address comprising a first subnet identifier, the mobile unit roaming in a foreign network having a second subnet identifier (Column 2 Line 6–12). Verma, also, teaches about a mobility manager 80, a foreign agent 30 and a home agent 50. Verma, however, does not teach about multicasting. Das teaches about multicasting. Das teaches a mobility manager 130 operable to determine a multicast address for the mobile unit based on the device identifier [0023], to receive multicast address requests that include the device identifier [0023], and to communicate the multicast address responsive to the multicast address requests [0023]; a foreign agent 140 in the foreign network, the foreign agent operable to detect the mobile unit [0023], to determine the device identifier for the mobile unit [0023], to communicate a request including the device identifier to the mobility manager [0026], to receive the multicast address from the mobility manager [0023], and to register for a multicast group identified by the multicast address [0027]; and a home agent 120 operable to receive IP packets addressed to the mobile unit, to determine the multicast address associated with the mobile unit [0027], to encapsulate the IP packets as payloads for multicast packets addressed to the multicast address 252, and to communicate the multicast packets for receipt by devices registered for the multicast group using a packet network 254. It would have been obvious to one

skilled in the art to modify Verma to use multicasting as taught by Das in order to reduce handoff latency [0010]. Verma in view of Das, however, does not teach the foreign agent operable to detect the mobile unit by determining that a signal strength received from the mobile unit have exceed a threshold. Kim teaches the foreign agent operable to detect the mobile unit by determining that a signal strength received from the mobile unit have exceed a threshold (Column 3 Line 1-5). It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to modify Verma in view of Das to have the foreign agent detect the mobile unit by determining the signal strength as taught by Kim in order to carry out hard handoff (Column 3 Line 1).

Regarding to claim 2, Verma teaches the device identifier as at least one of a mobile identification number (MIN) for the mobile unit and an equipment serial number (ESN) for the mobile unit (Column 2 Line 64).

Regarding to claim 13, 21, 24 and 32, Verma teaches a method for registering to receive packets comprising: determining a device identifier for a mobile unit (Column 2 Line 64), the mobile unit having an internet protocol (IP) address comprising a subnet identifier for a remote network (Column 2 Line 6–12). Verma, however, does not teach about multicasting. Das teaches about multicasting. Das teaches communicating a request for a multicast address associated with the mobile unit, the request including the device identifier [0026];

receiving the multicast address [0023]; and registering for a multicast group identified by the multicast address [0027]. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to modify Verma to use multicasting as taught by Das in order to reduce handoff latency [0010]. Verma in view of Das, however, does not teach the foreign agent operable to detect the mobile unit by determining that a signal strength received from the mobile unit have exceed a threshold. Kim teaches the foreign agent operable to detect the mobile unit by determining that a signal strength received from the mobile unit have exceed a threshold (Column 3 Line 1-5). It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to modify Verma in view of Das to have the foreign agent detect the mobile unit by determining the signal strength as taught by Kim in order to carry out hard handoff (Column 3 Line 1).

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed on June 7, 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. In response to pages 11-12, the applicant argues that Das provisional does not teach a foreign agent in the foreign network, the foreign agent operable to detect the mobile unit, to determine the device identifier for the mobile unit, to communicate a request including the device identifier to the mobility manager, to receive the multicast address from the mobility manager, and to register for a multicast group identified by the multicast address; and a home agent

operable to receive IP packets addressed to the mobile unit, to determine the multicast address associated with the mobile unit, to encapsulate the IP packets as payloads for multicast packets addressed to the multicast address, and to communicate the multicast packets for receipt by devices registered for the multicast group using a packet network. Das provisional teaches a foreign agent (FA) in the foreign network, the foreign agent operable to detect the mobile unit (MN), to determine the device identifier for the mobile unit, to communicate a request including the device identifier to the mobility manager (MA), to receive the multicast address from the mobility manager (MA), and to register for a multicast group identified by the multicast address (page 8 first column line 8-11); and a home agent (HA) operable to receive IP packets addressed to the mobile unit, to determine the multicast address associated with the mobile unit, to encapsulate the IP packets as payloads for multicast packets addressed to the multicast address, and to communicate the multicast packets for receipt by devices registered for the multicast group using a packet network (page 3 second column line 16-32).

Conclusion

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Clemence Han whose telephone number is (571) 272-3158. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 7 - 5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Huy Vu can be reached on (571) 272-3155. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

C. H.

Clemence Han
Examiner
Art Unit 2616


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